

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 7:30pm at South Marston Village Hall.

Council Members present	
S Brown (SB) - Chair	T Leathart (TL)
A Carter (AC)	N Hole (NH)
B Thunder (BT)	R Messenger (RM)
Clerk & Responsible Officer:	K Morgan
Borough Councillors present:	None
Others present:	A Featherstone, Lionel Cave-Ayland

Acronyms used in these minutes:

SBC – Swindon Borough Council, PC – Parish Council, NP – Neighbourhood Plan, NPC – Neighbourhood Planning Committee, SMRA – South Marston Recreation Association, OSWG – Open Spaces Working Group, CWG – Communications Working Group, SM website – www.SouthMarston.org.uk, ML – Mandy Larcombe (bookkeeper)

Agenda item & minute number	Summary	Action
Open 10 Minutes 171/23-24	Mrs Featherstone asked about the noise from the ex-Honda site that was an issue a while ago. SB explained that this had been checked with Panattoni and they acted to ensure that the time limits were adhered to. No further comments about working outside permitted hours had been seen on social media. Mrs Featherstone also asked if there was any news about the traveller site application. SB explained that in recent days, more positive communication had taken place with SBC officers and we hoped to see our input in any planning reports relating to the site. Cllr Vallender had informed us that the decision was expected in June/july Mr Cave-Ayland thanked the Parish Council for putting on the first aid course which enabled 4 SMRA volunteers to attend. He also noted the forthcoming village walk about event	None

1. Apologies 172/23-24	Cllr Povey sent his apologies due to childcare issues. Cllr McEwen sent his apologies due to being on holiday. Ward Cllr Vallender sent apologies.	None
2. Declarations of interest 173/23-24	Cllr Hole declared an interest in the item involving the F&E Harris Trust.	None
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 th March 2024 174/23-24	The minutes were approved. Proposed: NH Seconded: AC Approved: All	None
4. Review of actions 175/23-24	Review of actions currently outstanding. Clerk to update the following: Aug 23 65/23-24 Website changes – list any changes to be made to make the point clearer. Oct 23 89/23-24 Additional signage – It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to SBC using the draft response that was discussed. Mar 24 161/23-24 Defibrillators – BT summarised the situation, and explained that the units will be given to the PC. Insurance costs to be investigated. Mar 24 162/23-24 Crown Timber – After the PC response had been made, the results of the viability assessment had become known. BT to contact the applicant about the provision of the path around Hoddinott's Corner	Clerk Clerk Clerk BT
5. Review of Council Calendar 176/23-24	The PC reviewed progress. - The timing of the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. It was agreed that while the meeting should take place before June, combining the meeting with another event (Have Your Say or an information event) would be much more beneficial for the community and ensure a larger attendance. It was agreed to delay the Annual Parish Meeting until early or mid June.	None
6. Clerk's Report 177/23-24	Report was reviewed. - Council agreed in principle to contributing toward the cost of a new ergonomic office chair for the clerk with associated payback clauses.	Clerk

	Clerk to bring suggestions to next meeting.	
7. Planning applications 178/23-24	The following applications were discussed: S/COND/22/0031 Re: Discharge of condition 8 (Strategic Design Code) from Outline Planning Permission S/OUT/13/1555. At: Land North Of A420, Eastern Villages Swindon Deadline: 18th April 2024 - SB summarised the situation regarding SBC discharge of the proposals for the Th Rd roundabout. An interim response had been made to the SDC concerning pedestrian and cycle connectivity to the school/new Hall and the Keypoint bridleway. - In addition, it was noted that developers had taken satisfactory steps to address concerns raised by the PC about the Surface Water and Flood management proposals, and we had therefore withdrawn our objection.	
8. Reports from Working Groups 179/23-24	Communications Working Group: Report noted. - Council agreed that 'What 3 Words' should be used where appropriate to improve location reporting in the village. Proposed: BT Seconded: NH Approved: All - Council resolved to approve ten hours of overtime for the editor. Proposed: AC Seconded: BT Approved: All Clerk to arrange payment in May. - The branding report was discussed. Clerk raised concerns about the logo however it was reported that there was no support for changing it within the working group.	Clerk

	Council agreed that it was happy to continue developing the branding hierarchy outlined in the branding report. Open Spaces Working Group: Report noted. - BT mentioned that Mark is now undertaking tasks as the parish lengthsman. - Council resolved to approve £50 expenditure on materials to extend the knee-high fence at the village garden. Proposed: NH Seconded: TL Approved: All Allotments Working Group: Report noted. - Heritage Garden It was reported that there is an issue with one piece of play equipment and also that the spinners had been temporarily removed again. BT also discussed a different use for the community beds to raise young trees. Council resolved to approve £100 for purchase of plants for these beds. Proposed: AC Seconded: NH Approved: All - Emergency Information Council discussed the proposal for emergency signage to be mounted on a post at the allotments to advertise the relevant ‘what 3 words’ for emergencies. This was proposed by BT but not further supported. Alternative solutions to be considered.	
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	Rights of Way Working Party: - It was noted that the footbridge by Yew Tree Gardens and the Recreation Ground had been cleared.	
9. Reports relating to expansion 180/23-24	Strategic Planning Working Group Report noted.	None
10. Other reports 181/23-24	SMRA report: A verbal report was given. Recreation Ground Landscaping: - It was noted that Phase 2 of Recreation Ground landscaping is being considered. - The Community Forest maintenance funds of £11,500 are to be paid to the Parish imminently. Parish/borough Liaison: - The Clerk noted the ongoing situation with Transfer of Services and that a definitive plan from SBC has yet to be presented.	None None
11. Finance 182/23-24	To review and approve finance statement, bank statements and payments: - Council resolved to approve payments totalling £9,346.34 Proposed: AC Seconded: NH Approved: All Spending approved at this meeting: - Ten hours of overtime for the editor - £50 for fencing at the village garden - £100 for plants for memorial garden beds To give prior approval to use FWG draft figures for internal audit: - Council resolved to agree to use the draft figures for the audit.	None

	Proposed: SB Seconded: AC Approved: All	
Matters brought forward 183/23-24	RM raised issues re safeguarding. SB said, as previously agreed, she would work with her on bringing forward a potential policy for the Council to discuss.	None

The meeting closed at 9:20pm

Signed by Chairperson:

Date: